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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hays et al.

Atty. Dkt. No.: MET580/4-001US

Serial No.: 10/035,707

Examiner: Ms. Cheryl Fernandes

Filed: December 26, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2171

RECEIVED

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR
IMPROVED SECURITY SERVICES

DEC 13 2004

Technology Center 2100

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited on December 8, 2004, with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as "EXPRESS MAIL", express mail number EV 132363830 US, addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

Michelle Herbeck

Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JUNE 8, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed June 8, 2004 for which the three-month date for response was September 8, 2004. Applicants respectfully request that a three-month extension of time to respond be granted. This three-month extension will extend the response date to December 8, 2004, which is within the six-month statutory period.

Applicants hereby request and authorize the Commissioner to deduct the three-month extension fee (\$980.00) from the Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 22-0365, Attn: MET580/4-001US. No other fees are believed to be due. If this is in error or if any additional

fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit the same Vinson & Elkins Deposit Account as necessary.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 10 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 12 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 19 of this paper and include both attached replacement sheets and a marked-up annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 20 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 28 of this paper.